

6th Grade Syllabus

Course Description-

6th grade ELA offers core instructional materials in print and digital form that are aligned to College and Career Readiness Standard, Advanced Placement(AP), coursework, and the SAT Suite of Assessments. The course focuses on theme-based analysis of various works and excerpts from books including *Walk Two Moons*. Students will be assessed through embedded assessments such as narratives, short stories, responding to literature, informative essays, researching and debating controversy, writing an argumentative letter, researching and presenting a poet, and performing a scene.

Materials-

Grudzina, Rebecca, Johnson, Abigail, Lewis, Casseia, and Hansford, Natalie, editors.

Springboard: English Language Arts. The College Board, 2021
Creech, Sharon, ***Walk Two Moons***. New York, Harper Collins.1994
UP. Directed by Pete Doctor, Disney, 2009.

Temple Grandin. Directed by Nick Jackson, performances by Temple Grandin, HBO, 2010.

Miracle Worker, Directed by Authur Penn, performances by Anne Bancroft, Patty Duke, Victory Jory, Inga Swenson, Andrew Pine,Playfilm Productions, 1962.

Other materials may be used as needed

Standards-

<https://www.pdesas.org/Standard/View> Grade 6

Unit 1-Stories of Change (Nine Weeks)

Focus:

To understand how change can be significant

To evaluate details to determine the key ideas of the text

To use narrative techniques such as sequencing, dialogue, and descriptive language

To write meaningful narratives using genre characteristics

To understand pronouns and the conventions of punctuating dialogue

Course Outline

- A. "The Circuit" by Francisco Jimenez
 - 1. Close Reading and Marking the Text
- B. "My Superpowers" by Dan Greenburg
 - 1. Incident Response Reflection
- C. "Flipped" Wendelin Van Draanen
 - 1. Characterization
- D. "The Jacket" by Gary Soto
 - 1. Analyzing Narratives
- E. Embedded Assessment 1
 - 1. Writing a Personal Narratives
- F. "Thank you M'am" by Langston Hughes
 - 1. Elements of a Short Story
- G. "Orpheus and Eurydice" by Bob Blaisdell
 - 1. Plot Elements
- H. "Eleven" by Sandra Cisneros
 - 1. Developing a Story
- I. "The Treasure of Lemon Brown" by Walter Dean Myers
 - 1. Plot Elements
- J. Embedded Assessment 2
 - 1. Writing a Short Story

Language:

Figurative/Sensory Language, Vocabulary, Dialogue, Punctuation, Vivid Verbs, Transitions, Pronouns, Varied Sentence Patterns

Key Ideas and Details

E06.A-K. 1.1.1,

Craft and Structure

E06 .A-C 2.1.2, 2.1.3

Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

E06.A-C. 3.1.1

Vocabulary Acquisition and Use

E06. A-V 4.1.1, 4.1.2

Text Types and Purposes

E06.C.1.3.1,

Unit 2 The Power of Change(Nine Weeks)**Focus-**

To analyze literary elements

To apply a variety of non-fiction strategies to fiction and non-fiction texts.

To write informative essays

Course Outline-

A. “Up” film clip director Pete Docter

1. Characterization

B. “Walk Two Moons” by Sharon Creech

1. Double-entry journal

C. Embedded Assessment 1

1. Responding to Literature

D. Memoir: “Saying Farewell to a Faithful Pal” by Jon Grogan

1. Textual Evidence

E. Autobiography: “Dogs Make Us Human” from
Animals in Translation” by Temple Grandin and Catherine Johnson

1. Making connections through research

F. Biography: Excerpt from Chapter 6: “Hampshire School for Wayward
Wizards” from Temple Grandin: “How the Girl Who Loved Cows Embraced
Autism and Changed the World” by Sy Montgomery

1. Synthesizing Temple’s Story

G. Embedded Assessment 2

1. Writing an Informative Story

Standards addressed:

Key Ideas and Details

E06. B-K. 1.1.1

Craft and Structure

E06.B-C. 2.1.2

Integration of Knowledge and ideas

E06.B-C. 3.1.2

Vocabulary Acquisitions and Use

E06. V.4.1.2

Language:

Literary Terms, Plot, Subplot, setting, character, conflict, theme, pronouns,
verb tense, arallel structure, noun agreement, figurative language,
vocabulary

Unit 3- Changing Perspectives(Nine Weeks)

Focus:

To analyze argumentative texts

To practice non-fiction reading strategies

To support a claim with reasons and evidence

To engage effectively in a variety of collaborative discussions

To write an argumentative letter

To understand and use simple compound, and complex sentence
structures

Course Outline-

- A. Opinion Piece: “A Teacher’s Defense of Homework” by Andrea Townsend
 - 1. Identifying Claims and Argument
- B. Opinion Piece: “A High School Student’s Perspective on Homework” by Amedee Martella
 - 1. Creating Support with Reasons and Evidence
- C. News article: “Texas Teacher Implements No Homework Policy” by Ashley May
 - 1. Rereading
- D. News article: “Teens Are Over Face to Face Communication” by Katy Steinetz
 - 1. Organizing and communicating an argument
- E. Informational Text: “Are Social Networking Sites Good for Our Society” by ProCon.org
 - 1. Metacognitive Markers
- F. Embedded Assessment 1
 - 1. Researching and Debating a Controversy
- G. Letter: “The First Americans” by Scott H. Peters, Grand Council Fire of American Indians
 - 1. Rhetorical appeals and argumentative writing
- H. Embedded Assessment 2
 - 1. Writing an Argumentative Letter

Standards

Evidence- Based Analysis of Text:

E06. E.1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.1.4, 1.1.6

Text Types and Purposes

E06. C.1.1.5

Language:

Paraphrasing, Formal Style, Punctuation for non-restrictive elements, Appositives, Complex sentences, Tone, Effective gestures for presenting, Vocabulary

Unit 4- A Change of Scene (Nine Weeks)

Focus:

To analyze and understand the relationship among setting, characterization, conflict, and plot

To research the work and life of a poet

To rehearse and present an engaging performance of a play

To revise for effective sentence variety

Course Outline-

- A. Limericks: “A Book of Nonsense” by Edward Lear
 - 1. Oral Interpretation
- B. A Poem: Choral Reading performing Poetically
 - 1. “Oranges” by Gary Soto
 - 2. “Trying to Name What Doesn’t Change” by Naomi Shihab Nye
 - 3. “Fireflies” by Paul Fleischman
- C. Poems: Poetic Forms
 - 1. “I Can Dance” by Pat Mora
 - 2. “Ode to Teachers” by Pat Mora
 - 3. “Dumped” by Pat Mora
- D. Letter: “A Letter to Gabriela, A Young Writer” by Pat Mora and News Article: “Pat Mora’s Love for Words Spreads a River of Literacy” by Julie Ortiz
 - 1. Work of a Poet
- E. Embedded Assessment 1
 - 1. Researching and Presenting a Poet
- F. Short Story: “The Southpaw” by Judith Viorst
 - 1. Analysis
- G. A film: “The Miracle Worker” directed by Arthur Penn
 - 1. Genre

H. A play: “The Miracle Worker” by William Gibson and an autobiography: “The Story of My Life” by Helen Keller

1. One event, two genres
- I. Embedded Assessment 2
1. Performing a Scene

Standards -

Craft and Structure

E06.A-C. 2.1.2, E06.A-C.2.1.3

Literature Text

E06.A-C. 3.1.1

Language:

Figurative Language, subordinating conjunctions, Choral Reading, Literary Terms, Effective Gesture for presenting, Adverbs, Pronouns, Effective oral interpretation, Punctuation, Cues for vocal delivery